

Directory of Avacal Branches

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Baron and Baroness: *TE Vik Vikingsson & Inga the Unfettered (Jim Manners & Michelle Height)*
 1325 - 72 St., Edmonton AB T6K 3E9
 780-463-4445 slikboy@shaw.ca or
 michelle.height@ualberta.ca
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 11328 95A St., Edmonton AB T5G 1P1
 780 432-7927 kintair@telus.net

Cold Keep (Prince George, BC) (Shire)
Seneschal (Acting): *Eggbert the Ready*
 (David Golding)
 1474 Warner Ave, Prince George BC V2L 4P2
 250-564-1343 goldingspg@shaw.ca

Harrows Cross (Strathmore & environs) (Shire)
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 403-230-2641 twg88@yahoo.ca

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 44 Dalton Bay NW, Calgary AB T3A 1H8
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 513 Willow St, Saskatoon SK S7J 0E1
 306-652-5172 modern.cavalier@gmail.com

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 2354 20 Ave SE, Medicine Hat AB T1A 3Y1
 403-504-6182 mark_normoyle@hotmail.com

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 306-775-3759 jamespark@accesscomm.ca

Valley Wold (Moose Jaw SK) (Shire)
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Vinjar (Grand Prairie AB & environs) (Shire)
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 steadman@crtc.sk.ca or 306-682-1984

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 or 306-445-0482

Wyverns Veldt (Brooks AB) (Household)
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Their Highness' University of Avacal:
<http://www.avacal.net>
An Tir Website:
<http://www.antir.sca.org/>
Avacal Circus (Mailing List):
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Avacal/>



**AVACAL
 TOGETHER
 WE CONQUER**

The Avantgarde

Newsletter of The Principality of Avacal
 AS XLI * April 2007
 In the Reign of Their Highnesses

Principality of
AVACAL



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Front-Page Heraldry from the An Tir Domesday Boke —Created by Inga the Unfettered,
 Principality Scribe aka Gules Signet

(Continued from page 26)

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Southeast Avacal Chancellor: *Vacant*

Myrgan Wood Chancellor: *Vacant*

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Derrick & Rachael Olson
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(Continued on page 27)

From The Griffin Thrones:

Greetings Everyone!

Now that Spring is beginning to make its way throughout all of Avacal, Our thoughts turn to celebratory events and travel. We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary event with the Shire of Bitter End. Avacal have seen tremendous growth within this Shire, and congratulations are due! We look forward to the wonderful festivities planned for Silver Arrow, and hope to see many of you there!

As well, We are making plans for Our trip to May Crown in the Barony of Vulkanfeldt. We hope that many of you can make this trip, as Kingdom events are always amazing for reaffirming the Dream that we all strive for. HL Caitilin is ensuring that there will be ample camping space for all of us in the Avacal encampment with a quiet section being guaranteed! Please contact her if you are interested in reserving space, her email address is hoppingpenguin @telus.net.

Please continue writing award recommendations, if you are not comfortable with the online form written letters are completely acceptable!

With warm regards,
Steinn and Gemma~
Prince and Principessa Avacal



Picture by Beothuk

Royal Progress

Both - Danescombe Academy- Tir Righ: April 7/07
Both - Silver Arrow, Bitter End: April 21/07
Both - Beltaine, Montengarde: April 28/07
HH Steinn - May Champions, Cold Keep: May 12/07
Both - May Crown, Vulkanfeldt: May 19/07
Both - May Days, Wyndwyrn: May 26/07



COURT REPORT

For the complete Avacal OP please visit:
<http://heraldry.avacal.net>

Any corrections or updates can be sent to Master Mordecai Avacal OP Deputy at rslansky1@shaw.ca

—umm Bishr, principality chronicler

Recommendation forms!

http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/files/Avacal_award_rec.pdf

<http://www.antir.sca.org/recommendations.php>

Seneschal's Message

Greetings Avacal,

It's been a wonderful spring so far at least in the most southern parts of the principality. Hopefully everyone will soon get a chance to enjoy some warmer, less snowy weather. But until then, I must remind officers that reporting time is here once again. We've made great progress making sure reports are sent in on time and with good detail so I'm looking to you all to keep it up. Reports don't need to be long but according to some good advice I recently read "Reports should make sense ten years later, so write for historians, not just for the officer to whom it's going." Check the back of the Avantgarde or the Avacal website for officer information. Exchequers, please note there is a new interim principality exchequer, Lady Kalira. My thanks to Kalira for stepping in to the office and to Lady Eve for your hard work over the past few years. We are now taking applications for principality exchequer. Anyone interested may submit a resume to me and Their Highnesses. A job posting can be found on the royal summons page but if there are any questions please feel free to contact me.

Bye for now! —Meistres Manyra

From the Principality Chronicler

Salome,

Well, I admit to being short on words this month (or at least short on space). Of course, this makes me very happy since the cause is the number of excellent submissions sent into the Avantgarde this month. Huzzah for Avacal!

It's great to see many local branches with excellent newsletters and websites...remember that these are resources published for you, Avacal. Subscribe, read, submit, and review these works often! If you like what you see, let the contributors know, and if there's something you'd like to see, let the editor know, or ask if you can contribute. Take the opportunity to express your special talents, for posterity and for the benefit of the people of Avacal.

Also, I'm still looking for a contingency deputy, so if you're interested send me an e-mail at avacal-chronicler@antir.sca.org. Hope to hear from you soon!

Ever in service — al-Sayidah umm Bishr, principality chronicler

Silverwolf Champions' Tournament
June 15 to June 17, 2007

Barony of Borealis
Edmonton, AB

Site opens at 6pm Friday and closes at noon Sunday.

Site fee is \$8;

feast is \$10;

NMS is \$4.

Make cheques payable to ASCA Barony of Borealis.

For more information and to make reservations contact:

Neegahnee (Chris Hepburn)

zaagaate@yahoo.com

(780) 440-5014 or

c/o 10991A 124 Street

Edmonton AB T5M 0N9.

Join Borealis as we compete in feats Martial and Artistic to determine our Baronial champions.

The site is Sandhills Community League (52032 Range Road 270 Spruce Grove Alberta).

From the South: Drive north on Highway 2, take Exit 525 West. Turn left onto Highway 19. Drive 8 miles to Highway 60; turn right. Drive 9 miles on Highway 60 to highway 627; turn left. Drive 3 miles on Highway 627; turn right onto Sandhills Road/Range road 270. Site is one mile further.

From the North: turn right off Highway 16 on to Highway 60 South. Drive 8 miles; turn right onto township road 520 (Highway 627); follow above directions.

From the East: turn left off Highway 16 onto Highway 60 South; follow above directions.

From Edmonton: take your best route to Stony Plain Road, follow it west from the city. Turn left onto highway 60; follow above directions.



Pictish Wolf—based on Ardross Stone housed, Inverness Museum & Art Gallery

Harrows Cross Champions Tourney June 9, 2007

Shire of Harrows Cross
Strathmore & Environs, AB

Harrows Cross Championship will feature competitions for Heavy Champion, Archery Champion, Bardic Champion, A&S Champion and Rapier Champion, with new champions announced at the evening's feast.

Site opens at 1000 hrs (10:00 AM) and closes at 2200hrs (10:00 PM)

Location: 501 - 7th Avenue,
Gleichen, AB, T0J1N0

Site Fee: \$5.00

NMS Charge: \$4.00

Feast Cost: \$8.00

Please make cheques payable to
"Fellowship of Harrows Cross"

Autocrat: Brenainn mac Padraig
(Stephen M. Cross)
416 Rocky Ridge Bay NW, Calgary AB
T3G-4H8

Telephone: (403) 993-0056

Email: smcross@telusplanet.net



Secrets of the Principality Scribal Office Revealed

Ever wonder where your award scroll or charter came from and how to care for it? Ever wonder about how to become involved in their creation? These and other mysteries will be revealed in a series of articles over the next few months and will be covered in depth on the upcoming website for the College of Scribes and Illuminators (which should be launched by May). Anyone with scribal questions is, as always, welcomed to contact me directly at michelle.height@ualberta.ca



What is the College of Scribes and Illuminators?

Some History: Up until 2006, the Principality Scribal office was grouped with the heralds under the Principality Herald office. This meant that all the fun of court and awards and scrolls and charters and registering of names and devices and other such things were grouped together. Recently, however, there was a structural reorganization and Kingdom made the decision that those folks occupied with the creation of scrolls and charters are better suited to be their own "thing" and that the Heralds should focus on herald-y "things". The result is new independent office of Principality Scribe and the creation of the Avacal College of Scribes and Illuminators with its own specific area of focus and expertise.

So what is the College?

The College of Scribes and Illuminators exists to foster the scribal arts, cultivate scribal talent and manage the creation of scrolls and charters for the Royalty and award recipients within Avacal. The College includes the following:

The Principality Scribe aka The Gules Signet (this is me!)

Chief scribe for the Principality - they are charged with fostering and supporting the growth of the scribal arts in Avacal. They are responsible for all scrolls and charters that are produced within the Principality. They are responsible for assuring the accuracy of scrolls, their timely assignment and completion, and their delivery to the recipients. In the absence of a Royal Scribe, they are required to serve the Coronets in this capacity as well.

Deputy Principality Scribe

They assist and support the Gules Signet in the execution of their duties and in fostering the growth of the scribal arts.

The Royal Scribe

They are appointed members (by each Coronet) of the royal retinue who are entrusted throughout the reign with seeing to the Coronet's scribal needs.

Baronial and Shire Scribes

Each Barony and Shire within Avacal is encouraged to have a scribe who is responsible for assisting the Gules Signet with producing original scrolls and scribal education in their area. This person is often the head of the local scriptorium and may also have other duties assigned to them by their Barons, Baronesses or Seneschals.

(Continued from page 5)

Scribes and Illuminators

The only responsibility as a Scribe and Illuminator in the Principality of Avacal is to share scribal knowledge with others in order to ensure the continuation of our craft. Since all work within the Principality is assigned on a voluntary basis, scribes may participate to any extent they wish.

So now that you know what the College is, you may wonder:

How can I become Involved?

First and most importantly, you DO NOT have to be an experienced scribe or illuminator to get involved. The College manages projects of all scales and many are ideal for someone who is interested but not experienced. However, if you are already a talented or accomplished artist or scribe we certainly do have work for you!

Second, you do not have to be interested in or enjoy all elements of the scribal arts to be involved. Some people only enjoy calligraphy, some only enjoy the design process, while others only like to paint. The creation of scrolls can be a group process; do not feel that you need to do it all to be involved.

To be involved there are only two critical requirements beyond interest and enthusiasm: the ability to meet deadlines and the ability to be discrete. In almost every instance timing is important in the creation of scrolls and charters so the ability to meet deadlines is essential. Without scrolls and charters ready and on hand at events, the presenting of awards is simply not the same for either the Royals or the recipients. Further, given that scribes are often entrusted with delicate information, such as the name of pending award recipients, it is crucial that scribes be discrete and careful with this information. Accidentally or intentionally leaking hints or information to the pending recipient, family or friends is simply unacceptable. Individuals who violate this trust will no longer be permitted to be involved. If you can meet these two expectations, we can help you learn everything else needed to be involved. All you need is the interest and the willingness to commit your time and energy.

There are several ways to participate:

- ❖ painting charters
- ❖ designing charters for current or upcoming reigns
- ❖ creating original blank scrolls for higher level principality awards
- ❖ creating original scrolls for upcoming awards
- ❖ creating original scrolls for recipients
- ❖ commissioning scrolls
- ❖ assisting the College or the Royal Scribe in the management and organization of the scribal needs of current or upcoming reigns



This illumination from a medieval manuscript depicts the Venerable Bede at work in the scriptorium, while a bird whispers something into his ear.

(Continued on page 7)

Avacal June Coronet June 1 – 3, 2007

My Lords and Ladies, Their Highnesses Prince Steinn Vikingsson and Princess Gemma Meena invite you to attend them in the Shire of Cold Keep, (Prince George, BC), on the grand occasion of choosing the heirs to the thrones of Avacal!! The Coronet Tournament will be a standard double elimination tournament, following traditional An Tir Tournament rules. The tournament is open to all weapon styles. Both Fighter and consort are each required to have proof of membership, heraldic banners, and subscriptions to the Avantgarde.

This event will take place at the Rockin's River Resort, located North of Prince George. This is a camping event, NO FEAST WILL BE PROVIDED. Small convenience store on-site. Shopping and liquor stores 15 minute drive to Prince George. Hot showers are available on-site.

Shire of Cold Keep Prince George, BC

Site opens at 4:00 pm on Friday, June 1st and closes at 12:00 pm on June 3rd. Site Info: Rockin's River Resort, 3865 Salmon Valley Road, Salmon Valley BC. (250) 971-2223. Directions to Site:

From South, East and West. Find your best way to Prince George. Take Highway 97N out of town, travel 13 km. Take your first RIGHT immediately after crossing the blue bridge. Take the first driveway to your right.

From North. Take Highway 97S toward Prince George. 13 km from PG Turn LEFT immediately before you cross the blue bridge. Take the first driveway to your right.

Site fee: \$15.00, Children 6 – 15: \$10.00, Under 6: free (\$45.00 family maximum) NMS fees will be in effect. Make cheques payable to Shire of Cold Keep.

Autocrat: L. Markus Pheilsmid (Jeff Betke)
1325 Irwin Street, Prince George, BC V2M 2Y4 (250) 649-0997,
cell phone (250) 649-9480
e-mail: dragon_terror@yahoo.com



Coronet—Picture by Beothuk

May Days -The Season of Courtly Love
May 25 - 27, 2007

Shire of Windwyrm
Lethbridge, AB

Come one, come all and join the Shire of Windwyrm for our yearly May Days while joining in on celebrating The Season of Courtly Love.

Partake in our traditional May Pole Dance and the choosing of the May Queen. Spend some time trying your hand at medieval games, battle for your lady's favour, hone your skills as a sheep pilferer, join in with assorted children's activities, participate in our A&S display, while engaging in our War with Montengarde.

Warm up and enjoy our bardic circle, try your hand at storytelling, and raise your voices in song and in laughter with the populace of Windwyrm. Lords and Ladies enjoy this relaxing weekend with friends, there is plenty of camping space for all.

Autocrat:
 Eadaoin inghen Eileen a Cheo
 (aka Sandi Pickles)
 138 18 St N, Lethbridge, AB, T1H 3E8
 Phone: 403 328 3074
 or (403) 894 0854
 Email: sandiedenpickles@yahoo.com



Site Info: This event will take place at the Fish and Game Park in Fort MacLeod, Alberta (there is no street address). Full amenities are available 2 minutes from the site.

Bring your own drinking water. Alcohol is permitted in period containers. No smoking in and around site except at designated area. All pets must be leashed.

Site opens at 12 noon on May 25 and closes 12 noon on May 27. The site fee is \$10.00 for adults (proof of membership required) plus a \$4.00 surcharge for non-members, \$1.00 for youths (ages 6-16), and children 5 and under are free. Make cheques payable to W. S. C. A.

Directions:

From Lethbridge: Go West on Highway 3 (Crownsnest Highway). Stay on Highway 3 through Fort MacLeod. At the west edge of town, just past the Fort Museum, stay in the right hand lane and look for the Lyndon Road Sign, opposite the Shell Station. Stay on paved road down the hill. Go past the Daisy May Campground and look for signs.

From Calgary: Take Highway 2 south then east on Highway 3 into Fort MacLeod. Turn left onto Lyndon Road, opposite the Shell Station. Go past the Daisy May Campground and look for signs.

For up to date event information please check: <http://people.uleth.ca/~windwyrm/>

(Continued from page 6)

So how do you get involved? Contact me at michelle.height@ualberta.ca with the following information and we will help you get involved!

Modern Contact Information:

Modern Name:
 Mailing Address:
 Daytime Phone #:
 Evening Phone#:
 Email address:

SCA Information:

SCA Name:
 Home Group:

Scribal Information:

Indicate skill set:

- ✦ Beginner (no related experience)
- ✦ Beginner Scribe (have painting or calligraphy experience but new to SCA scribal arts)
- ✦ Charter Painter (have painted charters but not attempted original scrolls/designs)
- ✦ Novice (have done calligraphy/illumination on at least one original scroll/charter design)
- ✦ Intermediate (4 to 8 original scrolls/charter designs)
- ✦ Experienced (9 +)

Do you prefer doing Calligraphy or Illumination or both?

What are your favorite styles/materials?

Are you willing to work with period materials (pigments/vellum etc...)?

Are you comfortable doing time sensitive scrolls? If so, how much notice do you require?

Are you interested in teaching?

What would you like to learn or try?

Next month:

Proper care and feeding of scrolls or charters and the answer to "If something bad happened to my scroll or charter, can it be fixed?"

— Submitted by Inga the Unfettered, Principality Scribe aka Gules Signet



*Book of Hours, Ms. Library of Congress.
 Rosenwald ms. 10" (1533)*



SEASONAL SELECTIONS FOR SPRING

**Escargot-archer visant un lapin chavauchant un lion**

Verdun, [1300-1350](#), Bréviaire de Renaud de Bar. Metz, (Verdun, B.m., ms. 0107, f. 089, 107).



The Unicorn Is Found (detail from Unicorn Tapestry), ca. 1495–1505

Make Fens and spread Hillocks
in Meadows for Hay.
Set poles for Hops deep and Strong.
Sow Flax and Hemp,
set and sow all kind of Garden Herbs,
yet this rule do not forget,
to sow dry and set wet.
Restore the liberty
of the Laborious Bee
by opening her Hide.
Now, let the good Wives
look to their Gardens,
and begin to think of their Dairies,
for from April to St. Andrews tide
Dairies do last.

*Text is from Thomas Tusser's
Five hundreth pointes of
good husbandrie, 1586.*

— text found on <http://www.godecookery.com/godeboke/godeboke.htm>

**May Champions
May 12 – 13, 2007**

The Shire of Cold Keep presents itself to the knowne world, in a spring tradition of combat to choose their champions of heavy armored combat, rapier combat, archery, and arts and sciences. This is a camping event with a day of honorable competition, pot luck supper, games and a fun evening of bardic and dance. We will also have an auction right after feast (donations welcome to help out with Coronet preparations)

The gates opening at
9:00 AM sharp.

Tentative schedule:
Arts and Sciences will run all day until
supper

10am to 1pm Archery Championship
Format for the tourney to be
determined at the event
12pm Lists open for Heavy
Champions
1pm to 4pm Heavy Championship
Format for the tourney to be
determined at the event
3pm Lists open for Rapier
Format for the tourney to be
determined at the event
4pm to 6pm Rapier championship
6:30pm Pot luck feast
Shire folk would please bring a main
dish of their choosing, with all out
of town honored guests bringing
desserts, breads, or fruit.

**Shire of Cold Keep
Prince George BC**

We are having an audience for the presentations after the supper just before the auction. After dinner we will have an auction and then fun and games for the evening.



In the morning we will be having a Sunday brunch (by donation) to wish everybody a fond farewell.

Site closes at 12:00
Sunday

Site fees are \$6 with
NMS in effect for this
event, children 12 and
under are free. Please
make cheques payable

to Shire of Cold Keep.

Directions to site:

Make best way to Prince George. On Hwy 16 go west until you reach Blackwater Road (West Lake sign will point that way). Travel down road for 10 to 12 min until you come to West Lake Estates Road, 2 min down the road; hall is on your right - called Nadsilnich (West) Lake Hall, 23495 West Lake Estates Road .

For more info please contact
Lady Brynn Macdonald (Donna Bader)
or Lord Brennen Macdonald
(Neil Golding) at dnd18@telus.net or
ph (250) 562-2830
552 Beech Cr.
Prince George BC V2N 1L1.

Spring Tea & Pillage Practice May 4-5, 2007

Aaaaaahhhhh!!!! Pillage Practice has arrived once again! To shoot some arrows, pillage and drink tea all in the same event! Indeed!! All in the rapture of hosting Sigelhundas' Archery and Heavy Tourneys to select our new Shire champions.

The Pillage Practice site located at Camp Gilwell in the Qu'Appelle Valley is one of the most peaceful, scenic event locations close to Regina. With an inviting fireplace in the Great Hall or the fire pit near by, we ask one and all to come and practice their bardic skills to entertain each other until either they grow weary for their pillows or the sun breaks the horizon.

Heated cabins (that sleep 14-16 people each) as well as the Great Hall are available for those who wish to nestle their heads indoors, however be wary as you will need to bring something to sleep on lest you enjoy a good wooden floor. If you are daring enough there is plenty of room for tenting, but please be sure to bring extra bedding, as the nights can be "crisp".

If you are not in the mood to bring rations for Saturday evening, there will be a tavern style feast available for a small fee. This feast will include a stew or soup of some variety, breads and dessert.

There are no showers on site, but a motel room approximately 10 minutes (by car) from the site will be available. It may be used by anyone who wishes. Please bring your own towel and be respectful of others that will also be using it. If you wish there is water on site (**not drinkable**) for cleaning oneself up if you do not wish to drive to the shower.

The Very Flexible Schedule:

Friday: Site opens at 4 p.m.

There are no specific activities scheduled for Friday Night other than practicing your bardic skills at the bonfire. If you wish to host an activity please contact the autocrat.

Saturday: 10:30 a.m. - Rapier play for those who are interested in getting together to fight rapier are welcome to armour up and prepare for the summer rapier season.

Shire of Sigelhundas Regina, SK

** Children's Activities to be held throughout the day. Please contact the Autocrat if you wish to host an activity. As well, there will be a competition and prizes for all children for the most Ticks collected.** For more information regarding Ticks here is one site to try - <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/ticktips2005/>

11:00 a.m. (ish) - Shire Archery Champion Tournament (Information to follow)

1:00 p.m. - Shire Heavy Champion Tournament (Information to follow)

3:00 p.m. -Afternoon Tea served in the Great Hall (Complimentary)

6:00 - 8:00 - Tavern Style Feast

Sunday: Site closes at 12:00 p.m.

Site Fee:

Adults: \$8.00 for the Saturday only Children (5-12)

\$3.00 for Saturday

\$18.00 for the weekend

\$7.00 for the weekend

Children (0 - 5) free

Please contact the Autocrat for special rates for families of 4 or more.

Tavern Style Feast - \$4.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child

\$4.00 NMS will be charged for non-members. Please make cheques payable to QCSCA.

Location: Camp Gilwell is on the south side of Hwy 56 between Fort Qu'Appelle and Lebret.

If you reach Lebret, you've gone too far!!!

Directions: From Regina - Hwy 1 East to Hwy 10 off ramp, turn left onto Hwy 10 & proceed to Fort Qu'Appelle. Pass through Fort Qu'Appelle & turn left onto Hwy 35 North. Go about 1 km down Hwy 35 & turn right onto Hwy 56 East towards Lebret.

From Saskatoon - Take Hwy 16 East to Hwy 35 turn South onto Hwy 35 and proceed to Fort Qu'Appelle. Coming down the hill towards Fort Qu'Appelle will be the turn off for Hwy 56. Turn left onto Hwy 56 towards Lebret.

Autocrat: Lady Dezzrienne Dragnova

(aka: Dezzrienne Windecker-Klassen or Dezz)

Phone: (306) 546-4847

Email: dragnova@sasktel.net

GET YOUR TOURNEY TILES TODAY!

Greetings Avacal fighters,

Are you tired of rummaging through "generic" tiles every Coronet? Sick of having someone else take your favourite before you get there? Uh oh - just found out that you have to have one of your own to enter Coronet?

Have we got a solution for you! Order your own tourney tile today!

Here's how it works. Send me an email describing your device (in heraldic or English) or attach a picture (preferred). Our fabulous slaves, oops, I mean artists will decorate up a tile for you.

Tiles ordered before April 15, 2007 will be guaranteed for Coronet. After that, we will try to have them all done by Coronet, but all tiles will be on a first come, first painted basis. absolutely no submissions will be accepted after May 5th! so order early!

What's this wonderful service going to cost? Well, the first tile is \$7. If you want additional tiles of the same device it's an additional \$5 for the second and \$3 for the third.. The blank, primed tiles are \$1.

All money raised will go to buy new fighting regalia for our royals.

To order your device, send an email to: avacal-lists@antir.sca.org



Picture by Beothuk

Regards— Caitlin

CALL FOR LARGESSE

Their Highnesses Steinn & Gemma wish to continue the proud tradition of presenting at May Crown Their Majesties An Tir, Their Heirs, Their Highnesses of Summits and Tir Righ and Their Heirs with gifts of largesse. Their Highnesses would be grateful and honoured to receive contributions of largesse from the people of Avacal to show its generosity and bounty. The reputed skill of Avacal's artisans is spreading and gifts from the hands of the Coronets Avacal are becoming more eagerly anticipated. I am looking for artisans who can help provide the following:

*Wool trim (Tablet or inkle woven bands) - in An Tir, Summits or Tir Righ colours.

*Skeins of hand spun wool

*Felt items or any other type of textiles

*Metal work/small hand forged items - such as eating ware, small hooks, strike a lites, arrow heads, ring pins, etc.

*small metal or wooden boxes that look hand-made in period styles

*hand carved wooden, bone or antler items - such as household items, toys, sewing implements, etc.

*napkins or other table linens made from natural fibers

*handmade lampwork beads

*period toys, games, children's activities

*large bags and pouches made from natural materials

*tassels and other ornaments that can be used to decorate largess (please use natural-looking yarns or thread)

*pottery

Make sure to attach a tag to your donated item with your SCA name and branch - Their Highnesses want to make sure that people are properly thanked for their contributions, and it is important that the items be labeled when they are gifted during the reign to demonstrate the talent and generosity of the people of Avacal.

Please avoid items such as:

*potpourri, candles, or other scented items

*cordials, homemade wine or other food products (largess that is consumable really should be commercially produced and packaged - please ask regarding special circumstances)

*anything especially fragile, very large or heavy, or that requires special handling

*used items

Thank you for your consideration. Their Highnesses appreciate the time, effort and creativity that goes into making largess and will be extremely proud to gift your donated items during Their reign. Please contact me if you would like to make a largess donation.

—Maistreas Sadb ingen Thuathail

Avacal Largess wrangler for Their Excellencies Steinn & Gemma
vfooster @ xplornet.com 780-354-3803 (no calls after 10:30 p.m.)

'Inspiration'

(Fields of Athenry)

G C G D
 By the lonely castle wall I heard a young squire calling,
 G C G D
 My lady thou art fair, with your long and flowing hair
 D G
 O you're the one that does inspires me

Chorus:
 G C G D
 Lo I do hear the battle cry, of foes that march against our earth and sky
 C G D
 My love is on the wing, for me her heart does sing
 G
 I shall return to her with victory

By the lonely castle wall I heard a Lady calling

For me you fight today, find glory in the fray

Let my heart bring to you that victory

Chorus

By the lonely castle wall she watched his last foe falling

She inspired him that day, to great deeds some would say

For her great love did lead to victory

Chorus

Submitted by HL Stragin

Interesting Links (no, not chainmail...)

You may want to look at <http://sandradodd.com/sca/>. It's a page of personal writings about the SCA and its many aspects. Mostly quick reads, very interesting and covers a lot of things. If you're persistent you can usually find what you're looking for.

—submitted by *Mistress Manyra*

Montegarde Beltane April 28, 2007

Barony of Montegarde Calgary, AB

My Lords! My Ladies! Their most gracious Excellencies Beothuk of the Beothuks and Wilma the Still, invite you to celebrate the coming of spring. A time when restless Norse men and women leave in search of new trading allies. A time to feast on venison, spring berries and to drink the mead that has been aging all winter. Come one, come all to Montegarde's annual Beltane festivities. Test your strength in the Heavy tournament, hold your ground in the Rapier tournament or prove your accuracy in the Archery tournament. Come and join in on the festivities.

Merchants are welcome.

Contact Arnolt Brekswerd at: Montegardebeltane@gmail.com for setup and tear down times.

Schedule:

Archery Tournament: 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the Calgary Archery Center (4855 47th Avenue SE)
 The archery tournament will also be used for the annual archer's auction, which will be held at the Montegarde April Tavern. If you wish to be auctioned off please contact montegardearchery@gmail.com.
 Rapier Championship Tournament: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm Participants are requested to bring a small wrapped prize as an entrance to the tournament
 Heavy Tournament: 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm
 Feast to begin at approx. 6 pm
 Court to begin at approx. 8 pm until business is finished

Where:

Wildwood Community Center
 379 Wildwood Drive SW

When:

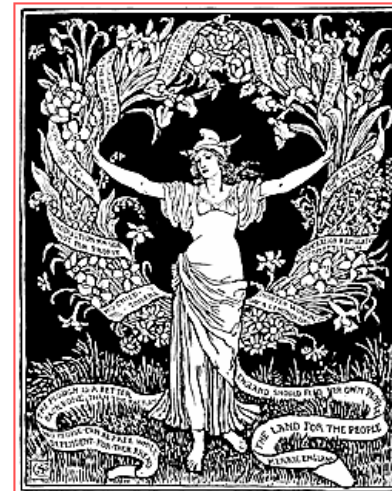
April 28, 2007, Doors open at 10 am and hall closes at 12 pm
 Enclosed flames only please

Cost:

Site \$7/ Adult, \$4/youth (12-16yrs), Littles are free
 Feast Prepaid \$7 for Adult and Youths: Not prepaid \$9.00
 Additional NMS of \$4 is in effect
 Archery \$7 additional payable to the range
 Please make cheques payable to MSCA.

Autocrat: Arnolt Brekswerd (MKA Sheldon Schnaar)
Montegardebeltane@gmail.com

Feast Steward: Tayaha the Wanderer (MKA Dana St Louis)
 123 Whiteglen Cres NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 2Z4
 Phone# 403-288-2951 after 6pm, no calls after 9 pm



25th Silver Anniversary Silver Arrow, April 20-22 2007

We would like to invite one and all to our Birthday Celebration, the 25th anniversary of this Shire, here in Bitter End. Our Silver Arrow tourney is well known. The Archery tournament will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will then be followed by heavy and rapier tourneys. What to shoot or fight for? A return to the tradition of the 1 oz of silver for the prizes. As well, one of our most famous feasts is planned. The feastocrats, my parents, have returned, so for those that have missed the wonderful food that they put on, join us once again. You do not want to miss it. Pre-registration for the feast is mandatory. Information required: name (mundane and SCA), membership number, exp date, to be considered as reserved for all reservations.

The Site is Shady Nook Community Hall, and will open at 12:00 noon on the Friday April 20th and will close Sunday April 22nd 12:00 noon. There is no street address, but directions are as follows:

Bitter End Red Deer, Alberta

From QE2 at Red Deer, head west onto HWY. 11 (not 11A) about 1 km to first set of lights. Turn left onto secondary Hwy. 596 and travel approx. 6km. Turn left onto Rg. Rd. and travel until you reach Armitage Feed lot turn right & travel for half a km. Hall is on your right hand side. Signs will be posted. {SCA signs}

Site fee is as follows:

Feast and Site- Members \$20.00
Nonmembers - \$24.00 . Day fee-
Members -\$10.00 and Nonmembers
\$14.00. Make Cheque payable to
the ASCA Shire of Bitter End.

Autocrat HL Gabrielle of the Leaf
MKA Patricia Keim
RR#4 Site 11 Box 15 Red Deer
Alberta Canada
T4N 5E4
1-403-309-1753 or
cell 1-403-887-2868

GabrielleLeaf@hotmail.com



Selewine's Scribings

Populace Persona Piece—Featuring Morgan ap Hugh, Privateer

It is not always with the most savoury of characters that I travel, and occasionally, when the situation is most dire, I have been known to make my way with ne'er do wells and scoundrels. Such is the man I choose to speak of today. I first met Morgan ap Hugh while travelling to meet with the Lady Morigan, and have saved his story till now. Born to a humble family, the 5th child, in Mynyw, on the southeast coast of Wales, Morgan now makes his home, and his career, aboard the privateer Storm's Promise. Serving as a privateer is a logical progression for Morgan, who graduated to this when his career as a highwayman became too dangerous. He escaped to sea just barely before the noose and knows that he will never return to his beloved Wales. To this day he blames that Tudor upstart for making his job too dangerous and driving him from his home.

This day we have met in a pub, just off the docks and Morgan ap Hugh is dressed for the occasion, fine breeches, tall boots, a silken shirt and a fine rapier, along with a few pieces of good jewellery, the origin of which it is best not to enquire too closely. Morgan has asked me not to name the port we meet in; the safety of his ship and crew depend on a certain degree of secrecy. We share a pint of ale as we talk and speak of many things. He is a charming man and surprisingly well spoken. There is just a hint of an accent but it is clear that he has travelled much. I have known a few sailors in my day, and, like many of them, Morgan cannot swim. He loves the sea but much prefers to see her from the deck of his ship. Morgan serves as first mate on his ship and it is clear that he is good at what he does. Privateers, bad ones any way, have a short life but Morgan has been doing this for several years. He has served aboard this one vessel only and has worked his way up the chain of command. As first mate he has one of only two separate cabins aboard the Storm's Promise, which he shares with his wife; one he describes as the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. At a later time we will speak with and of her but today we speak of Morgan.

We do not discuss in any great detail the travels of Morgan ap Hugh and the Storm's Promise. Being a ship with a price on her head, and part of a crew with prices on their heads, it is unwise to give to much information even to such a well intentioned stranger as me. Morgan is much concerned that I understand he is not a pirate, but a privateer. The Captain and crew of Storm's Promise want no mistakes in this. They sail on behalf of the royalty of Avacal and faithfully serve their Prince and Princess. Under the laws of this Principality they are not criminals and, quite frankly, they care not one bit what our enemies may think of them. The Letter of Marque they have been granted was fairly earned and they are careful never to go beyond its limits; they do not raid ships of Avacal; they do no more violence than is absolutely required to succeed in their jobs and they regularly pay to the treasury of Avacal the proper percentage or their "earnings". It is clear that, in his own way, Morgan ap Hugh is an honourable man and he serves loyally the rightful rulers of Avacal.

He shares small tales of exotic locations and stirring battles, but never even hints at the next port on his journey. There is not much to say about the life of a privateer, almost all of his time is spent at sea, in battle, waiting for a battle or recovering from a battle. He



Morgan ap Hugh—Picture by Beothuk

(Continued from page 11)

tells me his life is long boring travels with sporadic times of intense, nay almost insane, busyness. He talks of sails and maps and the beauty of the ocean on which he spends his life, but mostly he simply talks of the joy of being alive and avoiding the hangman.

Morgan speaks fondly, albeit sadly, of his beloved Wales and still remembers the courting gift given by his father, a love spoon. According to Morgan in all the world there are none to equal the beauty and skill of the spoon carvers of his homeland. He is quick to tell me that he is from Wales, but that the sea is now his home. He appears to regret leaving Wales, but not the life he has lived since doing so. A sailor's life is not easy and many a time he has faced death as he and his good shipmates have fought the sea he calls home. As a privateer Morgan and the crew of the Storm's Promise face even greater dangers than the average sailor, with the hand of virtually every sailing nation known against them. Dangerous indeed are the oceans for a privateer, but the rewards are also great.

His wife is a canny investor and Morgan has a significant fortune building thanks to her good stewardship and skill. She is a noteworthy merchant in her own right, and she has connections that make it much easier to sell those items of value that come to Morgan as a result of his "trading missions". He knows well that when he can no longer continue to ply the seven seas, when it is no longer safe for him to continue his current life, there will be money to retire on and a place to live. No matter where his life takes him he knows that he will never go far beyond sight of the seas. He was driven to become a sailor, but he has come to love and treasure the mystery she reveals to him anew each day.

Morgan cannot visit long with me. The tide is going out soon and he must be aboard the Storm's Promise in sufficient time to ensure that she is ready to sail on that tide. He finishes his ale, stands and offers me a small bow and a tip of his hat as he excuses himself to head back to his ship. He tosses the tavern wench a coin as he passes by and strides off into the bustle of a busy seaport, making his way back to his wife and his future. I cannot help but offer a small prayer for this good, but dangerous man as he leaves my sight.

—Submitted by - HL Brother Selewine (mka: Lance Blades)

"If you want your name to be one of the next to fill this space then send your persona information to brother-selwynn@shaw.ca"



Morgan ap Hugh—Picture by Beothuk

AVACAL CALENDAR

April		
20-22	Silver Arrow *	Bitter End
28	Beltane *	Montengarde
May		
4-5	Pillage Practice & Spring Tea	Sigelhundas
12-13	May Champions	Cold Keep
19	May Crown	Vulkanfeldt
26	May Days	Windwyrm
June		
2	June Coronet	Cole Keep
9	Harrows Cross Championship Tourney	Harrows Cross
16	Silver Wolf	Borealis
30	An Tir/West War	TBA

*Bold = event information has been submitted. * - Royalty Attending*

Calendar Policy: Autocrats MUST submit *Date Reservation* and *Event Information* forms to Kalends (see officer listings) before an event is officially reserved or put on Calendar. Forms available from your Seneschal or the Kalends officer. On-line forms which may be filled out electronically can be found on the Avacal webpage, under Officers/Seneschal/Forms.

All event copies for the Crier, Avantgarde, and Avacal Webpage have to go through the Calendar Officer. Make sure to note if you do not want the event copy in the Crier. The Avantgarde and webmasters do accept longer/fancier versions of the event flyers but **it still must be sent through the Calendar**. Please have the event information form (with appropriate signatures) and event copy to the Calendar Officer by the **15th of the month**, 2 months prior to the event. (i.e. If your event is January 22, have event copy in by November 15th).

Please include the following as required by the Crier:

- Date of event (day and month and year)
- Time of event (when site opens and closes)
- Name of sponsoring group
- Location (name, street address, and town) of the site. The postal code should also be included if available. If there is no street address, this must be noted in the copy.
- Name (society and modern) and mail address of the autocrat; email address or phone number are discretionary but are very helpful. (I find it useful to include the feastocrat as well)
- If there is a fee for the event, the statement "make cheques payable to <Group>" must be included.
- Official SCA Event Title
- Modern Location (town/city)

The event copy can be a maximum of 300 words for branch or baronial events, 350 for Principality events.

Royal Summons for Principality Officers:

The following positions are open to anyone in the SCA who currently resides in the Principality of Avacal. If you would like more information regarding this position please contact the incumbent or your local officer. If you are interested in applying for any of the following positions, **please submit a letter of intent along with a copy of your resume containing both SCA and mundane experience to Prince, Princess, Heirs and Principality Seneschal and the current officer.** Contact information is listed at the back of the Avantgarde.

**** Anyone interested in becoming a deputy may contact the Officer of the position of interest. The help is always welcome*****

High Regent THUA (Deadline for applications is May 15/07) : Their Highnesses' University of Avacal is an extension of the Sovereign and Consort of Avacal, the Coronet, and has as its responsibility the fostering and development of Medieval and Renaissance research and the sharing of knowledge in Avacal. The High Regent is a warranted officer and oversees all aspects of the administration of the University. Specific responsibilities include the following:

- The advisement of the Coronet in the selection of Chancellors and other Deputies for approval and warranting.
- The guidance and supervision of Chancellors throughout Avacal in the organization and running of Collegia and other educational activities.
- Maintaining student and instructor records.
- Maintaining THUA financial records and reporting of such to the Avacal Exchequer
- Reporting of THUA activities to the Coronet and to Principality Curia.

Activities presently under the direction of the High Regent are the production of the Avacal Directory. Computer skills are an asset in this position but in no wise are requisite for application for this office. Applicants for the office should submit a resume and cover letter outlining their SCA and relevant mundane qualifications to the THUA High Regent, the Principality Seneschal, Their Highnesses and Their Heirs.

Regional THUA Chancellors (Deadline for applications is May 15/07) : Coordinate with teachers in your area to arrange classes for local events.

Principality Arts & Sciences: (Deadline for applications is April 15/07) The Principality Minister of Arts and Sciences is considered the chief artistic and scientific officer of the Coronet. You will have the responsibility of encouraging the research and development of historically accurate period art forms, technologies, and philosophies; promoting and encouraging period appropriate arts and sciences works and assisting in the selection of the Principality Arts and Sciences Champion. You will also be responsible for condensing the reports of your subordinate officers up to Kingdom Level.

Rapier Provost (Deadline for applications is May 15/07) : The responsibilities of the Principality Rapier Marshal are to maintain, publish, and enforce the rules for period rapier combat and safety and equipment for period rapier combat as laid out by the Kingdom Earl and Rapier Marshals. They are also responsible for encouraging rapier combat and related activities with Avacal. A list of the full responsibilities and requirements can be found in the An Tir Rapier Marshal's Handbook.

Principality Chirurgeon (Deadline for applications is May 15/07) : SCA Chirurgeons provide first aid at Society events. (The word "Chirurgeon" is a medieval term from which the modern "Surgeon" is derived.) Members of the SCA Chirurgeonate include Red Cross trained first aiders, medical doctors, military medical corpsmen, nurses, paramedics, St. John Ambulance volunteers, and many other medical volunteers. A Chirurgeon's Warrant of office crosses Kingdom boundaries.

Principality Exchequer (Deadline for applications is May 15/07) : Exchequers are responsible for maintaining the financial records of their branch and for ensuring that all funds are spent to further the Society's non-profit, educational purpose. Branch Exchequers must maintain permanent, detailed books and records of all financial activity. All records must be retained for at least seven years. The Principality Exchequer provides financial counsel to the branches within their territory. They also act as part of the audit team when a branch's books are audited. Parts of this office may also be divided between deputies.

How to Have Fun and be Safe in the SCA with your Kids... AND Keep your Sanity

The SCA can be a wonderful and fulfilling family experience and pastime. It is a family welcoming atmosphere, involves physical activity, the outdoors and has numerous educational and cultural experiences just waiting to be discovered. These are just some of the plusses of our hobby. There is also another less discussed venue of the SCA and parents/guardians do need to be aware of this aspect, its pitfalls and how to avoid them and keep everyone safe and happy. Hopefully this guide will give you some direction in both the fun side and open your eyes to some safety issues. By no means do I intend to disparage anyone nor do I intend to besmirch the very hobby that I actively take part in with my own children, so please read on with an open mind and more importantly open eyes.

Preparing for an Event

Before you head to your event with family in tow you should first consider some of the following points and plan accordingly:

The age of your children, this will dictate what sort of entertainment you will need to bring, and other necessities. i.e. diapers, playpen, crayons etc.

What kind of event is it? Camping? Feast? Day-long? Week-long? Again pack accordingly, remember the longer the event the more entertainment middle aged kids are going to need. Also, while you may be comfortable if you don't have pajamas, your kids may not be so accommodating. I usually pack their stuff first and do a double check before I pack my own stuff.

Older kids will forget something they deem vital. Find out what it is before you leave the house and double check that it is there. Anything requiring batteries? Bring extras.

At the Event

You have arrived on site. Yay, you made it and nobody is screaming...yet ;) You will have numerous forms to fill out at the gate for your minors and yourself. The exact number will depend on whether or not you are a paid member etc. Be prepared. Some of these forms you can print off online and pre-fill out for a speedy gate experience, AND the gate people will love you for it. Visit www.antir.sca.org and follow the links to the appropriate forms.

There will be a minor event waiver (An Tir/Kingdom), possibly a local group minor waiver (in Tir Righ, the NSCA minor waiver), plus any waivers you may require. There may be a Medical Authorization form. This is important. IT IS TO STAY ON YOUR CHILD AT ALL TIMES. This is in case of an emergency and you and your child have been separated. It will allow qualified medical people to possibly save your child's life.

So now you are all signed in at gate and off you go. If you are camping now is a good time to set up. If you are at an event hall stake out a SMALL area for yourself and your family. Do not take up more area than you need, often space is at a premium. Be courteous of others. If you notice a group has already set up in one area, ask before encroaching on their space. Do not assume to move others gear or stuff around. Most people will be more than willing to move over a bit or condense their gear if you ask.

If you have small children, or even middle aged kids, it would be an EXTREMELY smart idea to NOT set up next to a fighting eric. You will be doing no one any favours and putting your children in harm's way. Yes, you may want to see the fighting but think how a fighter would feel if they inadvertently harmed a child. Possibly even killed? Those swords are heavy and solid, those fighters are strong. Accidents happen and even the most skilled fighter could lose their sword or fall backwards over the eric ropes. Put your family first and be safe. You can still see the fight from bleachers if there are any, or from a few rows back.

Entertaining the Kids

So you are now all set up and ready to enjoy your event. The kids are complaining that they are bored. Yup, you knew this was going to happen. Heck, you even planned for it!!! Dig out the toys. Keep them confined to your area only. You do not want to be searching all over a site looking for a lost car (trust me I learned this from experience). If you are allowing other kids to 'borrow' or play with your toys tell them that they must stay at your area.

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At larger camping events there may be planned kids activities (not pied piper, we will talk about that in a bit). Find out what they are, where they are, what time and any age limits. My favourite is the Kids Equestrian at Crown and Coronation in the summers. These activities most likely will require your help and supervision.

Some groups may offer children's Arts and Sciences classes. Again find out your 5 Ws and be prepared to supervise.

Are you sensing a theme yet? Supervision! Yes, you will be required to be responsible for your children and any other minors you bring on site. Kids' activities are not without their own dangers and you should be present for your child's protection and fun. Some of the kids' crafts are a blast and you get to do them too!!!

Pied Piper...there may or may not be a pied piper station on site. If there is then WHOOO HOOO!!! You are guaranteed some fun kids' activities for your children and yourself. Again you will be required to be present with your children. **THE PIED PIPER IS NOT A BABYSITTING SERVICE!!!** Please don't use it as such. The pied pipers are people giving up of their own free time (no pay) out of their own event so that you and your kids will have something fun to do. Give them respect, treat them well and they will come back. Abuse them and you will soon find that you no longer have a pied piper.

What is expected from parents at events? Some easy rules to follow:

- ❖ Do have a good time.
- ❖ Do stay with your kids and supervise them.
- ❖ Do include them in your activities. Let them water bear you if you are fighting (with supervision). Let them sit next to you if you are teaching.
- ❖ Get involved. Keep your kids involved in what is happening around them, teach them how to courtesy and bow. Explain why. They will think it is fun.
- ❖ Do take "No" for an answer. Some people will not like your kids in their space. Respect that.
- ❖ Do not force your children on others.
- ❖ Do not expect others to keep watch over and care for your kids. You brought them it is your responsibility to care and watch for them.
- ❖ Do not let them run wild. It is noisy, annoying, and dangerous.
- ❖ Do know where your kids are at all times--especially older ones who are prone to wandering.
- ❖ Do not let them bother the merchants. The merchants are there to make a profit, not entertain your children.
- ❖ Do sign up for kids activities. They are fun, usually free or extremely cheap.

The Dark Side...Keeping Safe

A word of caution here, there are some safety issues you need to be aware of as a parent. Contrary to what you may believe and may have been told, the SCA is NOT child safe.

This is one of the reasons you need to supervise and know where your kids are. Period.

It is like a giant amusement park or carnival, only potentially worse. We use fake names. We wear funny clothes. We come from imaginary shires or towns. Hmmm...in the event of a mundane intervention (think police) what REAL information do you have on many of the 'friends' and people you meet in the SCA? To compound this, children who are not supervised and involved often end up bored. That makes them easy prey.

What to do if a 'situation' arises and you need immediate help. If your child is missing and you cannot find them immediately find a constable and alert the autocrat. Start looking--tell everyone what your child looks like and what they were wearing. I keep a modern picture of them with my stuff, just in case. Chances are they just wandered off and will be found happy and whole. If you have searched the site and you still cannot find them, do not hesitate to call the police. A missing child is a missing child no matter where you are.

This is not meant to scare you, only make you aware of potential dangers. Personally I have not yet been to an event where a child went missing or was abused. But it has happened: just like the Boy Scouts, sports teams and many other organizations. Keep them close, keep them safe. Period.

So use your head, let good senses prevail, use good judgment, prepare and you and your family can and will have a fun time in the SCA.

—Submitted by Sina Erdena, Principality A&S Champion ©2007

Silver Arrow Silent Auction

Greetings Avacal!

Once again Bitter End will be holding a silent auction at Silver Arrow April 20-22.

HL Gabrielle of the Leaf, her parents Dan & Sheila McNeil, and HL Ceara O'Ceallaigh of the Shire of Bitter End are heading up a project that when completed will be able to purchase a traveling play center that the children of Avacal can use (under strict adult supervision) at events in and around Avacal. 100% of the proceeds from the Silver Arrow silent auction, lunch, and donation breakfast will go towards the purchase of this play center. Please bring donations to the auction as well as your coin pouches to Silver Arrow and help support the youth of Avacal! Last year we were able to raise over \$400 for the travel fund...way to go Avacal!

We are looking for donations to the auction. The auction will take place on Sat. April 21st all day long and will end shortly after feast/court. If anyone wishes to help out and donate something to the auction, please contact me off list annsteve (at) telus (dot) net. There will be some awesome items auctioned off this year in celebration of our 25th anniversary!

Thank-you to everyone in advance.

Cheers—HL Ceara O'Ceallaigh

Silver Arrow Children's Activities

Just to let everyone know, I will be holding a variety of children's activities all day long at Silver Arrow this year. Activities will be appropriate for all ages (for those adults that still have that inner child in them...I'm sorry but you will have to find other ways to entertain yourselves). Activities will consist of games, toys, crafts, treasure hunts, piñata, and more! Children are also encouraged to take part (with parental supervision) in some of the tournaments. There will be archery and possibly a boffer tournament. So bring your kids along and let them have some great fun too! Information on the 25th Silver Arrow event can be found at:

http://www.avacal.antir.sca.org/events/silver_arrow.htm

Cheers—HL Ceara O'Ceallaigh



Une école bondée
Heures de Louis de Savoie, vers 1450 Paris, BnF, département des Manuscrits, Latin 9473, fol. 172